GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4587
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2002
DAMAGE DUE TO NATURAL CALAMITIES
SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Governments are sending proposals for interim relief to offset the damages to agriculture farms due to natural calamities;

(b) if so, the States from whom such requests received during 2000-01 and 2001-02, State-wise;

(c) the name of States where Union Government deputed its team to assess the damage;

(d) the total amount of interim relief provided to States during the last two years, State-wise;

(e) whether Central team from time to time are making recommendations to the Union Government to assist the State Governments in a better way for meeting the natural calamities; and

(f) if so, the strategy chalked out by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) to (f): Financing of relief expenditure in the wake of natural calamities is governed by the recommendations of Finance Commissions, appointed from time to time. Financing of relief expenditure for the 5-year period 2000-01 to 2004-05 is governed by the recommendations of Eleventh Finance Commission (EFC). There is ready availability of funds with the States under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for undertaking immediate relief measures in the wake of natural calamities. Additional assistance is considered from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) for natural calamities of severe nature, on receipt of detailed Memorandum from the State Government. Normally, no adhoc release from the NCCF is considered. However, in the case of earthquake of 26th January, 2001 in Gujarat and severe floods in Orissa in July-August, 2001, adhoc assistance from the NCCF was released in view of magnitude of the calamity and severe damage caused by it, to enable the State Government to take necessary measures.